



8 September 2006

Freedom Team Salute Program

1. During these times of great sacrifice by Soldiers fighting the Global War on Terrorism and supporting contingencies around the world, the support provided by families and loved ones is more important than ever. Soldiers rely heavily on the quiet encouragement and support they receive.
2. To recognize those who support Soldiers during times of peace and war, the Secretary of the Army and the Chief of Staff of the Army established the *Freedom Team Salute Program*. This program gives Soldiers—active duty, Reserve, and National Guard—the opportunity to recognize parents, spouses, and employers for their support. The program may also be used to recognize veterans for their dedicated service and continued support of today's Soldiers.
3. To implement the Freedom Team Salute Program in the European theater, each Soldier in the Army in Europe will be given an Army decal that provides instructions on how to nominate deserving individuals for recognition. Those who are selected for recognition will receive the program's commendation package, which includes an official Army lapel pin, a certificate of appreciation, and a letter of thanks signed by both the Secretary of the Army and the Chief of Staff of the Army.
4. I charge leaders at all levels to support the Freedom Team Salute Program. Commanders will ensure that every Soldier receives a decal and is encouraged to nominate a supporter. This is a terrific opportunity for Soldiers to salute their families for their support. It is also an excellent way to strengthen the bond between Soldiers and civilians.
5. The USAREUR Freedom Team Salute Program Coordinator will soon begin distributing decals to units in the Army in Europe. Units that need more information may contact the Program Coordinator at DSN 370-3390.

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